

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 126

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 39

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 126—Relative to Toxic Awareness Week.

[Filed with Secretary of State May 4, 1998.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 126, Wayne. Toxic Awareness Week.

This measure would declare May 10 to May 16, 1998, as Toxic Awareness Week.

WHEREAS, Fourteen years ago, on May 14, 1984, a hazardous waste spill occurred in the City of Santa Barbara, California; and

WHEREAS, This hazardous waste spill resulted in the evacuation of 3,500 people from the center of town; and

WHEREAS, The training and preparedness for the emergency response to this disaster averted tragedy; and

WHEREAS, This hazardous waste accident was the largest metropolitan hazardous waste accident in recent California history; and

WHEREAS, The transportation of hazardous wastes or materials through densely populated areas is a daily and frequent occurrence; and

WHEREAS, The transporters of these wastes and materials do not always employ all possible safety precautions; and

WHEREAS, An accident involving a spill of hazardous wastes or materials could result in injuries, deaths, or the evacuation of the residents of the communities through which the transporters of hazardous wastes and materials pass; and

WHEREAS, Maintaining public health and safety is a prime responsibility of this state; and

WHEREAS, Hazardous wastes and materials are a threat to the health and safety of the citizens of California; and

WHEREAS, Despite the care taken by producers and transporters of hazardous wastes and materials, accidents and unforeseen dangers may occur; and

WHEREAS, It is critical that all individuals be aware of the dangers of handling hazardous wastes and materials and the safety precautions necessitated by the handling of these wastes and materials; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature of the State of California hereby proclaims the week of May 10, 1998, to May 16, 1998, as "Toxic

Awareness Week,” to commemorate the fourteenth anniversary of the toxic spill of May 14, 1984, in the City of Santa Barbara; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of the State of California urges all Californians to reflect upon the role that hazardous wastes and materials play in the state’s daily domestic and commercial existence; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of the State of California encourages California’s public schools and businesses to sponsor programs to inform students and employees of those accident prevention measures that should be taken when dealing with hazardous wastes and materials and of proper emergency responses to accidents involving a spill of hazardous wastes or materials; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the Mayor and City Council of the City of Santa Barbara and to the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara.

